

8583

DISBANDMENT

OF

N° 3 BATTERY

QUEBEC GARRISON ARTILLERY

10.
5583

Quebec, 8th February 1896.

SIR,

I beg respectfully to lay before you a curtailed statement of correspondence with reference to the Disbandment of No. 3 Quebec Garrison Artillery, under the false plea of being "*non-effective*" and shall feel deeply grateful if you will give your interest in having the whole case thoroughly sifted, by Public investigation or Court Martial as may be deemed best in the public good and the reputation of the officers and men of said Battery.

Such a case may happen in any district or province in the Dominion and the character of member of corps injured on account of underhand spite or jealousy.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. D. MORGAN,

Captain Retired.

Late in command of No. 3 Q. G. A.

Synopsis of charges and correspondence with reference to the disbandment of No. 3 Battery Garrison Artillery, Quebec, as brought before last session Parliament by the member for Quebec Center.

CHARGES.

Extract from the *Canada Gazette* of 17th December 1892 :

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

Head quarters, Ottawa, 16th Dec. 1892.

" No. 3 Quebec Garrison Battery. This battery having become non-effective, is removed from the list of corps of Active Militia,

Captain Herry David Morgan, is permitted to retire retaining his rank, and Lieutenant David Witmore Morgan, retires from the service. ”

Colonel Irvine, Inspector of Artillery reports to the general officer commanding “ The officers and non-commissioned officers knew very little about their work and the men knew nothing except a few numbers at the 64 pounder. The subaltern, Lieutenant Morgan, was unable to perform the simplest company movements and knew nothing at all of his 40 pounder gun drill. He also reports that the men in the ranks were not physically fit, and that the Battery was inefficient. For several years past they have been unable to perform their annual gun practice. ”

Lieutenant Morgan, is not stated in general orders as having resigned his Commission. His corps being disbanded he was necessarily removed from the list of officers of the Active Militia. ”

In answer to the beforementioned charges Captain Morgan writes to the Minister of Militia 21st February 1893.

“ In answer to this I myself had just passed a special course and my other officer has a certificate. I passed inspection every year, and no fault was found. Two of the N. C. officers hold certificates and were counted good. The men had their usual 12 days drill and had been previously inspected by Lt-Colonel Montizambert and no fault found. They were instructed by two of Battery Instructors Sergeant Major Lyndon and Sergeant Rainboux. I applied to be allowed to have annual gun practice and was refused.

Captain Morgan further requests an inquiry be held into the truthfulness of Major Wilson's, B Battery inspection report on No. 3 Battery Quebec Garrison Artillery on 30th June 1892.

This has not been granted, Captain Morgan also asked.

“ Why did the Inspecting officer allow the Battery to receive their annual pay in the face of such a deplorable condition of the

Battery by so doing he did an injustice to the service and also to the Dominion Treasury. M. C. 1887, Sec. 116 and 310.

The *attendance at Drill* was signed by Captain Morgan, but the Inspecting officer signed the report of *efficiency*, which was necessary before pay was granted. If the Inspecting officer signed otherwise, why was pay granted?

Art. 310. " Payment for drill shall be made *only* upon proof of compliance with such regulations touching such drill and the *efficiency of the corps.*"

The Battery for the last ten years has never been found fault with, nor has pay been refused. I am therefore at a loss to know why all at once such a damaging, insulting and false report should be given to the Public as in the Report of 16th Dec. 1892.

I can only request in justice to myself and all other members of the Battery, that a thorough investigation or Court Martial take place to sift out the unfounded charges against said Battery *such as physique very poor, Drill bad, Battery not efficient and did not practice.*